

claims, with more becoming modesty; especially, as it would, in our opinion, have advanced his pretensions. For, at this day, it is much to say, that, "the classification of the subjects is more natural, and, in my opinion, more scientific, than that of any other writer."—*Preface.* This is a blot, that we trust the good sense of the author will expunge in the next edition of his truly interesting little work. There are, perhaps, other egotisms that we might find fault with, did we not feel it would be wrong to be fastidious, where we have so much to commend.

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XXIII. *Bulletin Universel des Sciences et de l'Industrie, Publié sous les Auspices de Monseigneur le Dauphin.* Par la Société pour la Propagation des connaissances Scientifiques et Industriels, et sous la Direction de M. le Baron de FERUSSAC. 8vo. Paris, 1829.

The most extensive and laudable enterprize ever undertaken for the purpose of establishing a regular and periodical communication between those engaged in the pursuit of science, literature, and the arts, in every part of the world, is unquestionably the publication of Baron Ferussac, which was commenced in 1823, under the title of "*Bulletin Général et Universel des Annonces et des Nouvelles Scientifiques.*" It was proposed to embody in this journal a condensed view of all the facts, observations, discoveries, works, memoirs, and writings published in every part of the world; and a number, containing about one hundred and seventy pages, was published every month, forming during the first year four volumes. The decided approbation which this enterprize received, and the support that was accorded to it by learned societies, and individuals, in every country, induced the projector and conductor subsequently to enlarge very materially its plan, and to change its name. Accordingly, in January, 1824, it appeared under the name of *Bulletin Universel des Sciences et de l'Industrie*; and was divided into eight sections; the 1st devoted to the Mathematical and Physical Sciences and Chemistry; the 2d to Natural History and Geology; the 3d to the Medical Sciences; the 4th to Agriculture, Horticulture, Fishing, and Hunting; the 5th to Technology; the 6th to Geography, Statistics, Political Economy, and Voyages and Travels; the 7th to History, Antiquities, and Philology; and the 8th to the Art of War. Each of these sections is published separately, a very great advantage, the student being thus enabled to restrict his subscription to those sections which relate to the subjects most interesting to him.

Among the first objects that engaged the attention of the projectors of the *Bulletin Universel*, as the necessary foundation of their undertaking, was to make arrangements to receive regularly all the periodical publications relating to the sciences and arts, the memoirs of all the learned societies, &c. and so successful were their exertions, that in a few years they found themselves in the receipt of nearly *seven hundred* different periodical publications—the most complete and extensive collection of the kind ever formed.

The immense amount of the materials thus collected, the fresh impulse which the general cultivation of the arts and sciences are daily acquiring, and the conviction of the importance, that those engaged in the pursuit of science should receive regularly, through means of a suitable publication, information of all

the discoveries and views that may tend to accelerate their progress, rendered it necessary that the *Bulletin* should be still further enlarged; and to render it as complete and permanent as possible, a society was formed for its support, under the title of "*La Société pour la Propagation des Connaissances Scientifiques et Industrielles.*"

This society received at once the sanction of the protection of the king of France, was placed under the patronage of the heir apparent of the throne, and nothing appears to have been omitted that could give éclat or permanency to the undertaking, or extend its usefulness. Since the commencement of 1829, the *Bulletin* has been published by this society; and now collecting every month, the isolated facts and documents into the eight repertories that form the *Bulletin Universel*, it diffuses in various countries its collected information, and disseminates at all points the lights of general knowledge.

Each of the sections is placed under the particular superintendence of a principal editor, who receives the support of a number of collaborators, among whom we find the names of some of the most distinguished men in Europe.

The only one of the sections with which we have any thing at present to do, is the third, or the *Bulletin des Sciences Médicales*. The principal editor of this section is Dr. Defermon, and we find among his coadjutors MM. Andral, Begin, Boisscau, Bourguery, Breschet, Cuvier, Desgenettes, Desmarests, Desruelles, Gendrin, Luroth, Magendie, Rostan, Velpeau, and a host of other not less distinguished names.

We have before us the number of this section for July last, which contains under the heads of *anatomie, physiologie, médecine, chirurgie, ophthalmologie, thérapeutique, matière médicale et pharmacie, art vétérinaire*, and *mélanges*, a notice of the principal works that have been published in these departments, and the most important facts that they contain; minutes of the meetings of the Royal Academy of Medicine, &c.

We have constantly enriched our periscope with extracts from this work, and we shall continue to furnish our reader with information from the same source.

It is almost unnecessary to remark how important it is that all public libraries and colleges should possess the *Bulletin Universel*, furnishing as it does, a description and amount of information no where else to be met with in the same space, or at so small an expense. The subscription for the whole *Bulletin*, in Paris, is fifty-two dollars per annum—for the medical section, eight dollars and a half.

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XXIV. *A Practice of Physic, comprising most of the Diseases not treated of in "Diseases of Females," and "Diseases of Children."* By WILLIAM P. DEWEES, M. D. Adjunct Professor of Midwifery in the University of Pennsylvania, Member of the American Philosophical Society, Member of the Philadelphia Medical Society, &c. Carey & Lea, Philadelphia, 1830, Vols. II. 8vo. pp. 833.

The works to which a large majority of the profession in this country have been restricted for information in practical medicine, are those of Cullen, Thomas, Gregory, and Good. That these are fallacious, and often dangerous guides, is perhaps generally admitted; and if they have been consulted and followed by